

Appl. No.: 09/708,898
Reply to Office Action of 12-22-2005

REMARKS

Claim Status

Claims 1-64 have been canceled. Claims 65-73 have been added.

Rejection of Claims 13-22, 24, 58-63 under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 13-22, 24, and 58-63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Catanzaro et al. (U.S. Patent 6,438,111) in view of Semaan (U.S. Patent 5,680,392). The rejection is respectfully traversed. The rejected claims have been cancelled. The references will be discussed vis-à-vis the newly added claims below.

Catanzaro teaches a system comprising a router and a number of multipoint servers, wherein the router routes a call to a particular server, and, if necessary, causes additional servers to be added to increase the capacity for that conference. *See* abstract. Semaan teaches reservation controllers and reservation systems for reservation of access to multimedia multipoint telecommunication servers. *See* abstract. A reservation controller may be connected to multiple multipoint control units (Fig. 2).

The new claims require that the virtual MCU include first and second APIs for providing communication between the virtual MCU and an operator via a web browser and between the virtual MCU and a plurality of MCUs, respectively. The combination of references do not appear to teach or suggest these limitations. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 1-12, 49-57 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-12 and 49-57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kumar et al. (U.S. 6,006,253) in view of Semaan (U.S. Patent 5,680,392). The rejected claims have been cancelled. The references will be discussed vis-à-vis the newly added claims below.

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Kumar et al. teach a method and apparatus of providing a back-channel for a receiver terminal in a loosely-coupled conference that includes at least one receiver terminal and a H.323 panel having a multipoint controller and one or more H.323 terminals. See abstract. Semaan has been discussed above.

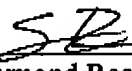
The new claims require that the virtual MCU include first and second APIs for providing communication between the virtual MCU and an operator via a web browser and between the virtual MCU and a plurality of MCUs, respectively. The combination of references do not appear to teach or suggest these limitations. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 be withdrawn.

To facilitate the resolution of any issues or questions presented by this paper, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner directly contact the undersigned by phone to further the discussion, reconsideration, and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3-3-06

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37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at 571/273-8300 on the date below.

March 3, 2006

Date


Rebecca R. Ginn